The Spirit of Solving Riddles

Alex Schneider · Daniel 5:12 · October 8, 2025



Daniel 5:12

> 12 for as much as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and showing of hard sentences, and solving of problems, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will show the interpretation.

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According to an ancient Greek legend, an oracle prophesied that the person who could untie the so-called Gordian knot would gain dominion over Asia. Many are said to have tried – but no one succeeded. Even Alexander the Great could do no more than cut the knot with a sword.

As believers, we are also often faced with a tangle of knots: a difficult trial, a problem with no way out, doubts about God's good guidance, and fear of the future. Difficulties are “thought through,” and our thoughts revolve around “our Gordian knot” from morning to night (and often even at night).

Daniel also experienced this. God helped: He gave him the ability to interpret dreams, solve problems, and solve riddles (Daniel 5:12). The literal translation of the Hebrew word *qetar* is “knots.” **The Lord took, as it were, from His own “knot-solving skills” and gave them to Daniel.**

The Lord can also help us today to untie our knots and bring order into our confusion. Let us trust the perfect knot untangler!

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